

Dear Club Members and Friends,

The Commonwealth Club is a fast-paced, action-packed hub of activities that explore the most important and exciting issues of today. Hosting more than 400 programs each year, we often present three or four programs in a single day. Our programs take place in a range of locations throughout the Bay Area, and attract diverse audiences, engaging individuals of all age groups, backgrounds and professions.

We take great pride in the fact that our programs cover a wide range of topics and address timely and important issues. This year we presented such renowned individuals as Supreme Court justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Sonia Sotomayor, former Secretaries of State Madeleine Albright and George Shultz, Vice President Al Gore, Grover Norquist, President Jimmy Carter, John Stossel and Senator Dianne Feinstein, just to name a few. Our members let us know that they benefit from hearing these presenters' viewpoints in depth and directly from the sources. It's an experience made even more meaningful by the opportunities the Club gives our audiences to engage with the presenters and participate in shaping the program discussion. We devote a full half of each program to audience questions. Then we share these unique discussions with local, national and global audiences via a thriving radio, television and Internet service.

# **ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- The Club turned 110 in February 2013
- Membership surpassed 20,000 members
- Purchased 110 The Embarcadero, a buliding that will be the future permanent home of The Commonwealth Club
- · Launched monthly member socials, bringing together smart and engaged individuals to discuss the news over snacks and wine
- Annual Club podcast downloads reached 1.2 million
- The Club's Inforum division, by and for younger generations, presented 30 programs and came in 12% over projected revenue targets, breaking every average for event revenue, event size and ticket price

Our 2012–13 fiscal year encapsulated several milestones for the Club. February 2013 marked our 110th anniversary, and our membership continued to grow, surpassing 20,000. Our prestigious and enduring history and robust membership make it possible for The Commonwealth Club to deliver a remarkable lineup of timely, unique and intriguing programs to our community and to those who listen to and watch our broadcasts across the nation and around the world.

Thank you for your support in making the Club a flourishing civic treasure. We appreciate your contributions of time, talents and financial resources to make it all possible.

Warm regards,

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Dr. Gloria C. Duffy President and CEO

Anna Mok Chair, Board of Governors

- Hosted our first **Climate One** programs outside of the Bay Area in Sacramento and Monterey
- Audiences flocked to sold-out programs over a two-month period, featuring Rob Reiner, Dick Costolo, Bruce Bochy, Christina Romer and Keith Hennessey, and Julian Castro
- Launched a new ongoing feature on Huffington Post called Commonwealth Club Thought Leaders, presenting a short video and text highlight from a recent noteworthy speaker
- Initiated design for a new iPhone app for easy access to upcoming Club events, tickets and audio of countless past programs
- California Governor Jerry Brown attended a Climate One event in honor of climate scientist James Hansen, winner of the 2012 Stephen Schneider Climate Science Communication Award

# Noteable Quotes on Stage at The Commonwealth Club DERS



"Even here in the Bay Area, one of the wealthiest, most blessed regions in the world, 20 percent of Bay Area residents live at subsistence level or lower. Subsistence level is \$22,000 a year for a family of four. Imagine trying to live on that in this area."

# -Carly Fiorina

Former CEO, HP; Chair, Good360 March 21, 2013

"What are the goals of a great nation? I would say they're the same as the goals of a great person. They're the goals that have been established most clearly in the religions that we might adopt as our own – Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism and so forth – and they're all the same. It would be a commitment to peace, a commitment to justice, a commitment to freedom and democracy, a commitment to human rights, to protecting the environment that we've inherited, to sharing our wealth with others. I think those are the hallmarks of a superpower."

## -Jimmy Carter

Former President of the United States February 24, 2013

"What is the barrier that stops people from being able to pursue their values, to pursue the things that they believe will lead to their happiness? It's coercion and force. Violence is the primary [obstacle]. So what we want is a government that extracts that coercion, that extracts force from society, that protects us from the use of coercion by other people."

# -Yaron Brook

**Executive Director, The Ayn Rand Institute** October 22, 2012

"The first case that I was on was Citizens United. Talk about being thrown in! Needless to say, if I'd been scared before, I was terrified by then. I knew the world was waiting and watching for my first question. I threw myself in, drowned myself in my work."

-Sonia Sotomayor

Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court January 28, 2013 "While it's true that the government can organize a surveillance state, the odds of any government, including the best-run ones, managing to pull that off with the kind of tools and technologies against them [used by an] informed and empowered populace with mobile phones are highly unlikely to be successful. There's just too many ways in which citizens can get around that."

## -Eric Schmidt Executive Chairman, Google June 4, 2013

"I see a positive that this society of ours has a longer tradition of selfgovernment and freedom and liberty and people who are educated and responsible and want to take care of themselves, and people who are willing to sacrifice if they were only told the truth.""

# -David Stockman

Former U.S. Congressman,

Former Director of the Office of Management and Budget April 11, 2013

"You take these kids who are kind of different. You have got to get them involved with shared-interest things. This is what worries me. Right now there is a shortage of software engineers in the tech industry. I can tell you where a lot of potential software engineers are: They're playing video games in the basement, because nobody worked on developing their skills in programming. We need to be introducing interesting things like this to kids really young."

#### -Temple Grandin

Professor of Animal Science, Colorado State University June 4, 2013

"Even though immigration reform has received the lion's share of attention, the fact is that the dropout rate in the Latino community is higher than in just about any community, that the fundamental ability of people to enjoy the fruits of America, to pursue their American dreams, is being hampered because too many of them are going to public schools that are decrepit, that aren't high quality. Their dreams are stunted, and oftentimes they don't have the chance that they should have."

## -Julian Castro Mayor, San Antonio, Texas January 7, 2013

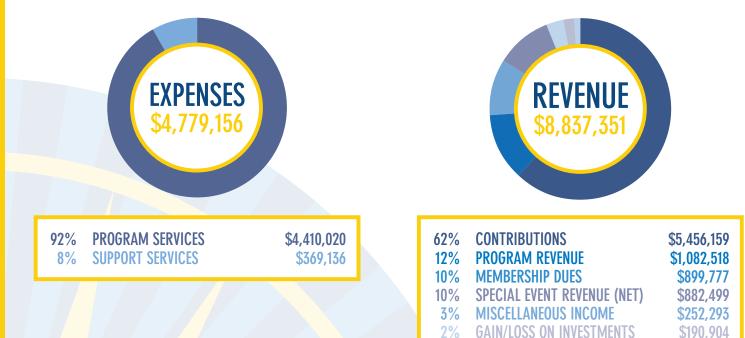
# **TOP GROSSING PROGRAMS**

- 1. Sonia Sotomayor
- 2. Dan Savage & Daniel Handler
- 3. Eric Schmidt & Jared Cohen
- 4. President Jimmy Carter
- 5. Al Gore
- 6. Madeleine Albright
- 7. Instagram Co-founders Kevin Systrom & Mike Krieger
- 8. Senator Diane Feinstein
- 9. Chuck Palahniuk
- 10. Christina Romer & Keith Hennessey

# **OTHER NOTABLE PROGRAMS**

- 82nd Annual California Book Awards Yves Behar & Tim Brown Mark Bittman Bruce Bochy Mayor Julian Castro Dick Costolo Carly Fiorina Barney Frank Dr. Temple Grandin
- Ray Kurzweil Meghan McCain and Michael Ian Black Grover Norquist Sandra Day O'Connor Rob Reiner Mary Roach Sir Ken Robinson David Stockman Ambassador Kenneth Taylor

# 2012–2013 FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT



# 2012–2013 FISCAL YEAR CLUB LEADERSHIP

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